



May 9, 2010

SIXTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA—Tone 5—SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN

Prophet Isaiah; Martyr Christopher of Lycia and with him Martyrs Callinica and Aquilina; The Translation of the Relics of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker from Myra to Bari; Ven. Shio of Georgia

Reading: Acts 16:16-34

Gospel: John 9:1-38

✠ **THE WEEK IN WORSHIP & STUDY** ✠

Tues, May 11 7:00 a.m.	Holy Equal-to-the-Apostles Cyril and Methodius Matins
Wed, May 12	7:00 p.m. Great Vespers with Litiya
Thurs, May 13 9:00 a.m.	THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD Virgin-martyr Glyceria at Heraclea and with her Martyr Laodicius the Keeper of the Prison
Divine Liturgy	Reading: Acts 1:1-12 Gospel: Luke 24:36-53
Sat, May 15	5:00 p.m. Confessions 7:00 p.m. Vespers followed by General Confession
Sun, May 16 9:00 a.m.	7TH SUNDAY OF PASCHA—Tone 6—SUNDAY OF THE 318 HOLY FATHERS OF THE FIRST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL; Afterfeast of the Ascension; Ven. Theodore the Sanctified, disciple of Ven. Pachomius the Great
Divine Liturgy	Reading: Acts 20:16-18, 28-36 Gospel: John 17:1-13

✠ **IN TOUCH WITH THE PARISH** ✠

Church School Classes will meet **TODAY** following the Liturgy Dismissal.

An **Informal Meeting of Parish Organizations** will be held at the rectory on **Tuesday, May 11**, at 7 p.m. The purpose of this gathering is to review the scheduling of events and activities for the remainder of the year. In addition to Fr. David and Starosta, a representative from each of the following groups is requested to attend: *Church Choir, Altar Society, Church School, Sisterhood, Men's Club, Senior R Club* and *Junior R Club*. Dessert and coffee will be served.

The **Parish Council** will hold its next meeting on **Monday, May 17**, at 7 p.m., in the church hall.

The **Junior R Club** will celebrate the many ethnic backgrounds of our parishioners by hosting its **2nd Annual Taste of the Parish** during the Coffee Hour on **Pentecost Sunday, May 23**. More info to follow.

If you have a question regarding Church doctrine, moral teaching or practice (liturgy, sacraments, etc.), ask it at Fr. David's next **Faith Feedback Session** on **Sunday, May 30**, during Coffee Hour. This informal gathering is for **everyone** who desires a deeper understanding of how and why we believe. For those who wish to remain anonymous, there are cards in the church vestibule on which to write your queries; once completed, they can be put in the *Faith Feedback Question Box*. Then, on the 30th, Father will try to answer all questions as clearly as he can. Come!

A **Memorial Day Panihida** honoring all the departed veterans of our parish will be served at our cemetery on **Monday, May 31**, at 8 a.m. If you know of any recently deceased or forgotten servicemen and women who should be included in the memorial booklet, please contact Fr. David at the rectory.

Everyone is invited to participate in **Holy Bread (Prospophora) Baking** on **Saturday, June 5**, starting at 9 a.m., in the hall. (**PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE!**) Learn the process of lovingly making the bread that will be offered to become the Precious Body of Our

Lord. It is definitely an amazing experience that should not be missed!

Saturday, June 19 is the date that has been set for the **15th Annual Run/Walk for the Church**. This is a fundraising event that will benefit *Christ the Saviour Church* in Paramus, *Annunciation Church* in Brick and our parish here in South River. Parishioners of all ages are encouraged to take part by running, walking or financially pledging on behalf of the runners and walkers. This is a fun and fellowship-building day. We hope for a great deal of participation from all three churches.

The **Church School Closing & Graduate Recognition Exercises** will take place on **Sunday, June 20**.

Please join us and fellow parishioners on 7 Acres for a **Parish Family Picnic** on **Saturday, July 10**. More info to follow; meanwhile, save the date!

✕ CHURCH CHATTER ✕

WHERE TWO OR THREE ARE GATHERED TOGETHER...Attendance at Liturgy last Sunday was **149**.

MINISTRY DUTIES The Epistle will be read next week by **Robert Pisuk**. Coffee Hour will be hosted by **Parish Council**.

GENERAL CONFESSION will resume **this Saturday, May 15**, following Vespers. Remember that this *Rite of Forgiveness* is held on the **first** and **third Saturdays** of the month. (*Refer to The Week in Worship & Study for any date changes.*) Those of you who regularly commune can participate on whichever weekend is more convenient. Note that you are **NOT** required to go twice a month—only once—and if you desire a private confession before then, Fr. David will be available, as usual, on Saturday afternoons, starting at 5 p.m.

A WARM WELCOME to **Fr. John Baker**, Rector of *Christ the Savior Church* in Chicago, his dear wife, **Matushka Stephanie**, and their daughter, **Scout**, who all attended the consecration of our new diocesan hierarch, Bishop MICHAEL, yesterday. Before moving to the *Diocese of the Midwest*, the Baker Family was part of our *Adopt-a-Seminarian* program several years ago. It is a delight to have them worshipping with us. May God continue to grant them good health and long life for many years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

FOR YOUR PRAYERS Please pray for the following parishioners, family members and friends this week, as well as those killed or injured during the recent earthquake in northwest China:

Departed

Jakob Vail
Gregory Nasarenko
Lisa Muhs
Barbara Robinson
Mary T. Banach
Edna Maletz
Omari Gvaladze
Anna Tarka

Sick

Elaine Ashton
Irene Boule
Kirsten Hyland
Edward Romanofsky
Walentyna Posluszny
Alan Zenkert
Michael Dargento
Daryl Deissingner
Cynthia Denlinger
Linda Martinovich
Josephine Tillison
Mary Lou Goldy
Julia Glazer
Joseph Casale
Donna Casale
Dr. Joseph Pastore
Randall Cline
Joseph Lynch
Lasha Giorgi Pozidis
Aiden Gowarty
Dorothy Swenticky
Sara Cseh
Olga Smith
Anthony Garito
Ermelinda Faziola
John Cameron
Janet Firestone
Adam Krosnowski
Savanna Dore
Joan Roshak

Servicemen

Paula Hila
Joseph Posluszny
Nancy Filak
Anna Durovich
Kira Gregor
Denise Yager
Martha Drobnak
Chrise Murrell
Dorothy Sopchak
Elaine Boshko
Andre Tirenin
Glynne Smith
Marian Morgan
James Dewan
Beverly Martucci
Gregory Huba
Frederick Bhend
Kathryn Patricia Gmitter
Walter Smorgans
Helen Smorgans
Karen Vernak
Philip Folino
Margo Stewart
Stephen Janosko
Robert Kornafel
Joseph Curren
Richard Simpson
Catherine Oluich
Michael Oluich
Vladimir Lewis
Ivan Shidlovsky
Lisa Beard
Gregory Nosol
June Buyofsky-Rittman
David T. Floyd
Patrick Lohr
Keith Sudder
Priest Paul Rivers
Andrew Kubik
Jason Vaughn
Patrick Baldwin
Timothy Stepan
Michael Gregus
Peter Shaw
Jacqueline Martinez
Robert Mahrer
Karen Bonet
David Gambert
Gregg Poole
Fred Bush
Travis Hartman
Walter Zettlemoyer Jr.
Elizabeth Brent
Kyle Abbott
Matthew Scudder

Sarah Hall
Dotsy Hartman
Katherine Tarzewski

Matushka Evdokia Hubiak
Barbara Wyluda
Vera Bilas

If you have a name you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Father David or Starosta.

THANK YOU to **Kathryn Nepote** for her recent donation to the church. We recognize the importance of her kindness and ask our Risen Lord to bless her and all her loved ones with good health and long life for many years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

THE FLORAL ARRANGEMENT adorning the icons of the Resurrection and Christ Healing the Blind Man on the center tetrapod was offered by **Dorothy & Norman Edwards** in memory of **Tatiana Strugala** and **Maria Zenko**, as well as **ALL** living and deceased mothers of our parish. The flowers at the base of the Golgotha were donated by **Sergey Andreyev** in memory of his beloved mother, **Maria**. We thank them for their generosity.

HELP WANTED In the words of Parish Council member **James Jones**: “*Christ is Risen and so has the grass!*” To reduce landscaping expenses, we are in need of volunteers to help with grass cutting and trimming at the church, the rectory and 7 Acres now through early fall. We provide all the equipment, training (if necessary) and gas. If you can lend a hand, put your name on the sign-up sheet posted in the church vestibule. You can also contact Jim at (732) 238-0735.

MEMORIAL SATURDAY One of the five *Ancestral (Soul) Saturdays* that the Church has set aside this year to remember those who have fallen asleep in Jesus Christ will be **Saturday, May 22**. A form to list those deceased loved ones you want memorialized at the *Matins for the Departed* on **Friday, May 21**, and Liturgy on the 22nd, was distributed in January. If you didn’t get one, there are extra copies available at the Candle Desk. Once completed, you can leave your list in church or send it to Father David at the rectory.

THE RUSSIAN ECCLESIASTICAL MISSION IN JERUSALEM (REM) is the guardian of our Orthodox monasteries in the Holy Land: the *Convent of the Ascension* on the Mount of Olives, *Gethsemane Convent* and the *Skete of Saint Chariton*. The monastics are doing their best to lovingly maintain and preserve these splendid sites of Holy Russia, but they are in need of financial aid. Show your gratitude to them and to God by sending a donation to *R.E.M., P.O. Box 286884, New York, NY 10128*. Your gift, in any amount, will be much appreciated.

KEEPING ALIVE THE MEMORY OF VETERANS All Orthodox parishes in the US are invited by *Saint Nicholas Cathedral* in Washington, DC to add the names, ranks and photographs of their US military veterans to the newly established **Orthodox Veterans Memorial Web Page**, a 21st century extension of the cathedral’s continuing commitment to praying for our Orthodox fallen. (**NOTE:** *Besides being our primatial cathedral, St. Nicholas was dedicated in 1963 to the memory of Orthodox Christians who died fighting for freedom.*) This new web page features a growing list of Orthodox veterans by jurisdiction and parish. New names and photographs will be added as they are received. Additions should be submitted by E-mail to veterans@stnicholasdc.org; please include the word “VETERANS” in the subject line. All hardcopy correspondence should be addressed to *Veterans Memorial Coordinator, Saint Nicholas Cathedral, 3500 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20007*. Names of service members killed in action (KIA) or missing in action (MIA) not already included on the cathedral’s listing of the fallen will be added and duly commemorated during the Divine Liturgy on Sunday of Memorial Day Weekend.

POMP & CIRCUMSTANCE Do you know of a graduating senior from the parish? High school and college graduates will be honored during the *Church School Closing & Graduate Recognition Exercises* on **Sunday, June 20**. Please contact Fr. David or Karen Berezniak (732-390-2990) with the following information: name of graduate, school of matriculation and degree & major (if college). If your high school senior has decided on a college or university to attend in the fall, include this also. The deadline for submissions is **Sunday, May 30**.

MEMORY ETERNAL The handmaid of God, **Edna Maletz**, fell asleep in the Lord late last month. She was a faithful communicant and staunch supporter of our parish for many decades. We support her family and friends with our prayers and sympathy. May her soul find eternal rest in God’s heavenly kingdom—Vechnaya Pamyat!

THE SPRING SESSION OF THE OCA HOLY SYNOD OF BISHOPS was held at the Chancery in Syosset, NY on March 16-18. At its conclusion, the following statements were issued:

- The report of a special committee charged with investigating the financial situation at *Saint Tikhon’s Monastery & Bookstore* will be evaluated by a committee chaired by His Beatitude, Metropolitan JONAH. After a full review by the Holy Synod, the final report will be made available. (**NOTE:** *The report was issued on March 24.*)
- The *Office of Review of Sexual Misconduct* is in the process of rewriting policies and procedures and expanding the scope of its work to pastoral misconduct.
- Future printed copies of *The Orthodox Church* magazine will be distributed directly to parishes in bulk, rather than individual mailings.
- The 16th *All-American Council* is slated to be convened in Seattle in the fall of 2011.
- All OCA bishops have received invitations to participate in the *North American Episcopal Assembly* scheduled to be held in New York City on May-26-27.

- In consideration of the present situation in four dioceses—Alaska, Bulgarian, Midwest and the South—a *Locum Tenens* is authorized to ordain and assign clergy in the same manner as a diocesan bishop, until such time that one is elected.
- The recommendation of Fr. Alexander Atty as the new dean for *Saint Tikhon's Seminary* was reviewed and approved.

May the Risen Lord continue to bestow His rich blessings on our Holy Synod so that its work may be fruitful for the growth of faith, hope, love and good Christian living, in accordance with the Gospel.

MISSION TEAM WISH LIST Our mission team is looking forward to its ministry at the *Hogar Rafael Ayau Orphanage* in Guatemala later this month with great anticipation, but the members need your help. How? Through donations of one or more of the items from the list that is inserted in this week's bulletin. (*Urgent donations are highlighted.*) Monetary offerings (cash or checks payable to *Friends of Hogar Rafael Ayau*) are also welcome. All contributions must be in to John or Susan Witkowski by **next Sunday, May 16**. Thank you for your kindness and remember that ministering is an extension of this parish. With your prayers and support of our missionaries, you are also laboring together with them to take the message of the Risen Lord out into the world.

BELATED BIRTHDAY GREETINGS are extended to **Evgeny Zlotnikov** who celebrated yesterday. May God continue to bless him with long life for many years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

CONGRATULATIONS to **Joan Pisuk** and **Sharon Edwards** on being the first and second prize winners, respectively, of the **Altar Society 5th Annual Mother's Day Raffle** held last Sunday. Thank you to everyone who participated; this fundraiser was a great success!

IN THIS TIME OF LOSS We convey our condolences to our former parishioner, **Julie Anne Simerick**, on the falling asleep of her beloved mother, **Anna Tarka**, on the Sunday of the Samaritan Woman, May 2. May God hold Julie, her husband, **Charles**, and their daughters, **Elizabeth, Rebecca & Sarah**, in the palm of His hand as family and friends offer them comfort in the days ahead.

WITH SINCERE GRATITUDE we acknowledge the following contributors to the *Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund*: the **Altar Society** (in memory of **Dorothy Dabkowski**), **Paul & Eleanor Boshko** (in memory of **Nicholas Boshko**), **Very Rev. Joseph & Matushka Luba Kreshik** (in memory of their children **Valerie** and **Joseph Jr.**) and **Jay Pelleriti** (in memory of **Barbara Robinson**). In this great and holy season, may the light of the Resurrected Lord be with them always.

AXIOS! AXIOS! AXIOS! By the grace of God, we entered a new chapter in the history of the *Diocese of New York & New Jersey* yesterday with the consecration of **His Grace, Bishop MICHAEL**, as our new archpastor. His Grace will certainly be an instrument to lead our diocese into the future with wisdom and love. But, he will need our help, understanding and constant prayers. With open and submissive hearts, we must all work together under his spiritual guidance, always reminding ourselves that *SS. Peter & Paul Church* in South River is but a small part of the Christ's vineyard in America. May the Risen Lord bless us in this appointed time we are about to enjoy under the spiritual direction of our new bishop. May we be at his side to encourage him and to participate in his episcopal ministry for many years. Eis Polla Eti, Despota!

BULLETIN INFO To place a message in the church bulletin, please contact Fr. David at the rectory or get in touch with our Starosta/Bulletin Editor, James Kornafel, by phone (732-462-3388), fax (732-845-3515) or E-mail (jimmyk@optonline.net). Notices must be submitted no later than **Thursday** for the following Sunday.



*Please remember that until the Vespers of Pentecost ("Kneeling Prayers"), there is **no kneeling** in church or at home for private or corporate prayer; standing is the position of gladness and rejoicing. Also, the prayer to the Holy Spirit ("O Heavenly King...") is **not** recited. From Pascha until the Feast of the Holy Ascension, it is substituted with the Paschal Troparion. ("**Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death and, upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!**") We are like the Apostles during this period, "waiting" for the Holy Spirit to come, and the absence of this prayer makes a strong statement of our profound need for the Holy Spirit.*



Today is **Mother's Day**, a special day on which to take a moment and honor all the mothers, grandmothers and godmothers of our parish, both living and departed, who have been a source of protection, nurture, care and a sense of well-being for us, their children. Through the years, they have been our teachers, doctors, comforters, fixers of broken things, storytellers, friends and more. All aspects of our lives—our character, sense of responsibility, good and bad habits, ability to cope with difficulties and piety—have been shaped by them. They have rejoiced in our successes, consoled us in our failures and inspired us to be the best we can be, all the while gently embracing us with unconditional love. How blessed we are to have these women who give us direction and purpose to our lives!

Unfortunately, Mother's Day is limited to one day on the calendar. Let us, however, honor our mothers and mother figures every day, thanking them for loving us, for being there for us and for sacrificing themselves on our behalf. To those who have fallen asleep in the Risen Lord, may their memory be eternal—Vechnaya Pamyat! And to those still with us, may He continually bless and keep them for many years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

CHRIST IS RISEN!

INDEED HE IS RISEN!